



September, 1996

Volume XXVII, No. 8

FREE

New Potrero Archives Videotape Available

The Potrero Hill Archives Project started in 1986 to record interviews with long-time hill residents. These interviews, along with hundreds of historic hill photos, are available at the Potrero Branch Library.

The second Archives Project videotape is now available through the library and "Dr. Video" on 18th St. It includes interviews with Sadie Meyer, who remembers life on Tennessee Street in 1915, and prominent Hill artist Charles Griffin Farr, who discusses his work. August Angeli and Mary Angeli also describe St. Teresa's School on Pennsylvania Ave. in the 1930s and 1940s.

The videotape concludes with a wonderful film of the 1932 Annual Feast Day Procession of St. Vincenza from St. Teresas Church. You can see Connecticut, Missouri and 20th Streets, and a Sonja Henie film playing at the New Potrero Theater, now the Gurdjieff Society. The film is narrated by Mary Anne Barulich, who was a young girl in the procession.



The 1932 Annual Feast Day Procession of St. Vincenza marched down Connecticut Street, past St. Teresa's Church (seen at left). This scene is in the new video from the Potrero Hill Archives Project. See story at left.

Copies of the first and second Potrero Hill Archives Project videotapes can be purchased for \$15 each; call Peter Linenthal at 863-0784.

Neighbors Set to Fight Halfway House Expansion

By Michael Mattis

Potrero Hill neighbors are gearing up to fight the proposed expansion of a prison work-furlough facility, or half-way house, located at 1234 Indiana St. At an August 21 meeting called to discuss the expansion proposal, Cornell Corrections, the company that owns the Indiana Street facility, failed to convince Hill residents of the desirability of the expansion.

Leading neighborhood concerns are the facility's track record in preparing inmates for life outside prison, Cornell's accountability as a private corporation, and the recidivism rate of inmates who have completed the program. Hill neighbors, especially those who live in the Lower Potrero Hill area near the half-way house - called the Indiana Street Facility - have stressed that the neighborhood takes a risk in having the facility nearby, and that increasing the number of inmates will only increase the risk.

Tony Dominski, a Hill resident who sits on Indiana Street's Citizen's Advisory Board, likened the facility to a dynamite factory. "You only need one guy with a match to have a disaster," Dominski said at the Aug. 21 meeting. "It only takes one person to commit a crime."

Responding to a request from Advisory Board members, Officer Mike Mahoney of Potrero Station presented recidivism statistics on some inmates who had successfully completed the program. Neither Board members nor Hill neighbors were pleased with the figures. Of the 56 inmates who had completed the program between Oct. 21, 1993 and July 6, 1994, Mahoney reported that 29 had been rearrested.

The charges ran the gamut from drinking in public and various drug possession charges to extortion, assault with a deadly weapon and false imprisonment. Some had been arrested multiple times, including one former Indiana Street inmate who was arrested five times - for possession of illegal drugs, assault with a deadly weapon, conspiracy, grand theft, and robbery.

Furthermore an average of 15 percent of the inmates leave the facility without permission every month, according to Ralph Johnson, a regional administrator for Cornell Corrections.

Even more shocking to area residents was that, of all those rearrested, only two had served jail time for new offenses. While a few were sent back to jail

New Parking Rules Around SFGH in Effect Sept. 9

By Vas Arnautoff

Barring any new objections, the Residential Parking Permit (RPP) zone around San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) will be enforced beginning Sept. 9.

The latest controversy over RPP involved the residents of 11 houses along 22nd and San Bruno Streets on the northeast edge of the SFGH campus. The hospital had considered the adjacent streets as part of its campus, and had posted signs stating: "Campus permit required 24 hours every day: tow away."

Residents in the enclave of homes protested. They maintained that in accepting RPP status for parking in front of their homes they would be allowed to park and have visitors park across

the street outside of "normal business hours." What constituted "normal working hours" was established and new signs now indicate the streets in question are reserved for hospital staff parking Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. At other times there are no parking restrictions.

With the new 811-space garage now open and RPP due to kick in Sept. 9, some of the parking problems, which have been characterized as "awful" by SFGH staff and nearby residents for years, have been addressed.

For \$65 per month hospital staff may park in the garage, the campus permit lots and on San Bruno Avenue and 22nd and Vermont Streets. A \$35 permit gets members of the staff and general public garage space. For \$25 per month, hospital employees get night and weekend parking on the posted streets, parking lots and garage.

Food Bank Gets Green Light for New Hill Facility

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(Continued on Page 9)

THE PUDDLE AT 23RD + PENNSYLVANIA MAY HAVE BEEN NO MORE THAN A CLOGGED PIPE... BUT THE HILL IS HOME TO MANY NATURAL SPRINGS, ONE OF WHICH, AT 18TH + ARKANSAS, RISES UNDER A MINI-MEGA-HOUSING DEVELOPMENT!!



THE VIEW AT THE LIBRARY

If you are searching for a story that ran in the Potrero View a long time ago, take a look at the bound volumes at the Potrero Branch Library which contain every issue from the very first one in 1970 through December 1991. We will have more recent issues bound in the not-too-distant future, but in the meantime, check with the librarian who may have them on file.



HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY: Art Agnos, Kim Allman, Dorothy Baker, Zachry Barclift, Georgette Bencharsky, David Enero Berman, Robin Brasso, Richard Buckley, Rockie Elkind, Sam Elkind, Ed Farley, Eugene Goldman, Richard Guidry, Millie Hargrave, Diane Hatch, Ron Hatter, Crazy Horse, Karen Larsen, Joel Lipski, Vince Lateano, Maclovio Mailer, Leigh Marie, John McGill, Joseph Mark McGill, Shana Justine Murraywolf, Michael Ohta, Stephanie Potter, Sheryl Anna Rowe, Ethel Ruymaker, Benjamin Siegal-Pechner, Walt Stack, Isidor Tani, Rachel Tourre, John Woodward, Mario Zelaya.

THE POTRERO VIEW

Masthead design by Giacomo Patri

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GETTING INVOLVED

- ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector)** meets the first Thursday of each month (Sept. 5) with members of the San Francisco Police Dept. to discuss issues of public concern. Meetings take place at 7 p.m. in the Community College — downstairs — at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps, off Bayshore. This month's guest speakers will be Police Chief Fred Lau, Asst. Chief Earl Sanders and Commander Joachin Santos, on the subject of a Crime Resolution Plan. Also announced to speak are representatives from the District Attorney's Office, the City Attorney's Office, the SFPD Narcotics — Vice Crimes Division, and others.
- Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board** meets the second Monday of the month (Sept. 9) from 6 - 7 p.m. Meetings, held at the Center at 1050 Wisconsin Street, are open to the public.
- Potrero Hill Democratic Club** will meet this month at a new time and place: Tuesday, Sept. 17 in the gymnasium (downstairs) at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro St. The focus will be on the candidates & issues of the coming elections. Several local candidates are expected to attend or be represented. Meetings begin at 7 p.m.
- Starr King Park Board** meets the second Wednesday of each month (Sept. 11) in the Potrero Hill Library meeting room at 1616 - 20th St. at 7 p.m. The monthly clean-up party will meet as usual on the 3rd Sat. (Sept. 21), 10:30 a.m. at the Park, south of 23rd St. at Carolina — behind Starr King School.
- Potrero Hill Parents Assn.** has no meetings or adult activities planned this month, but they are pleased to announce the official opening of the new Nursery School on Sept. 9. (See Quickview, page 7.)
- PLAN (Potrero League of Active Neighbors)** meets the third Wednesday of each month (Nov. 18). The announced agenda is simply: "VOTES!"
- Potrero Hill Boosters and Merchants** meet the last Tuesday of the month (Sept. 24) at 7:30 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Library meeting room, 1616 - 20th St.

PotrERO Hill

FESTIVAL '96
OCTOBER 12, 1996

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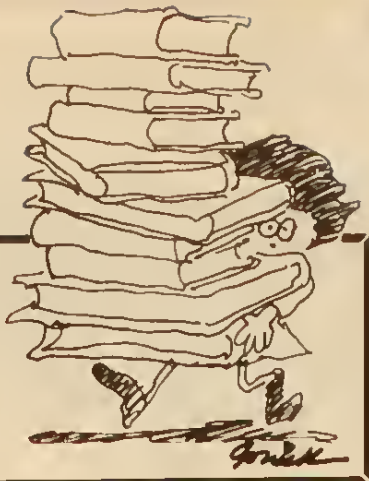
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LIBRARY NEWS POTRERO BRANCH 1616 20th St. • 695-6640

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Tuesday: 10 am - 9 pm
Wednesday: 1 pm - 9 pm
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm
Saturday: Noon - 6 pm



SUMMER READING: REACHING (FOR THE WORLD) EXCEEDS GRASP!

On August 10, at "Summer Reading Cooldown," following a death-defying juggling and tightrope act by Mary Evanoff, more than 60 summer readers, their families, friends and supporters celebrated an all-time high in summer reading registration, participation and completion of the eight-book "Reach for the World" goal.

Those who registered for the program numbered 126. Those participating in the program numbered 72, of whom 51 received certificates for having read eight books or more, with 25 of the 51 having read MORE than eight books.

Our records show that three years ago 40 children actively participated in the program, with less than half that number reading eight books or more.

Special awards were awarded as follows: Oriana Schaaf — most books read by a pre-reader; Frankie Draper — most books read by an early reader; Christina Baird — most books read by a preteen. A special "Honest Reader" award was presented to Iris Prophet, who entered eight non-library books, read another eight books to honestly qualify for the prizes she had been given.

The following were participants in the Potrero Branch Library's Summer Reading Program:

Kali Acquah, Kwesi Acquah, Arielle Anthony, Rachelle Anthony, Christina Baird, Kelly Bowman, Robin Bowman, Jessica Burke-Lazarus, Kyla Burke-Lazarus, Anne Chavez, Alison Cohen, Jazmin Cole, Troy Cole, Paul Conrad, Teddy Conrad, Bonita Cuanang, Lauren Mae Dahlberg-Seeth, Nikki Dahlberg-Seeth, Maggie Doyle, Frankie Draper, Krista Dyer;

Simone Ford, Austin Fusco, Cody Fusco, Daisy Garcia, Kate Gong, Steven Gong, Kimberly Goussev, Jimmy Grusky-Issel, Ursula Harrison, Christina Hurtado, Claire Huysentruyt, Mei-Li Isaacson, Britny Johnson, Carey Jones, Clifton Jones, Ian Jones, Jamila Jones, Brigitte Kelly, Nora Lalle, Nicholas Mackanna, Katie Matsuda, Jessica Minton;

Lilly Page-Blau, Camila Perez, Iris Prophet, Elisabeth Puccio, Aliseo Purpura-Pontoniere, Eli Purpura-Pontoniere, Flavia Purpura-Pontoniere, Lucia Purpura-Pontoniere, Silvano Purpura-Pontoniere, Celia Robertson, Dona Robertson;

James Salazar, Oriana Schaaf, Allyson Schrader, Max Schrader, Samantha Sharpe, Dimitri Staszewski, Marlo Surath, Matthew Sustarich, Willa Sweeney, Caitlin Taylor, Zander Walbridge, Hannah Waldschmidt, Casey Wildegrube, Travis Wildegrube, Jerome Wilson, Everett Wurz, and Emil Yeargin.

AUTUMN HOOTENANNY JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Join guitar-playing folk singer John McInerney for an old-fashioned Hootenanny on Saturday, Sept. 21, at 4 p.m. A fun-for-all-ages opportunity to welcome the falling leaves, with singing, cider and snacks. Other string instruments are welcome!

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Infant-Toddler Lapsits are every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Pre-school Story Times are every Thursday at 4 p.m. There will be two showings of the film, "Smile for Auntie," on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

MANY REASONS TO SAY THANKS

Thanks this month to Rebecca Dahlberg for her contribution to Magabucks, and to Sarah Wilcox for donating a subscription to the Times Literary Supplement. Thank you, Larry Gonick, for the cartoon in last month's VIEW celebrating the efforts of the Potrero Branch and its staff. The branches need visible and audible patron support, now more than ever!

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER

No orders have been placed this month because no book budget has yet been announced. The books we are previewing here are McNaughton (leased) books, and should appear on our shelves within six to eight weeks.

*Cussler, Clive. "Sea Hunters: True Life Adventures with Famous Shipwrecks." Author's first Non-fiction book is a dramatic account of nearly a dozen of the most fascinating and important shipwrecks he's searched for and discovered.

*Michener, James. "This Noble Land." Michener draws on both the lessons of history and the observations of a lifetime to outline key problems — problems that this nation cannot ignore. The economy, education, religion, cultural life, libraries, health care, race relations and family are all discussed.

*Reitman, Judith. "Bad Blood: Crisis in the American Red Cross." For over a decade now the Red Cross has been responsible for exposing millions of people to a blood supply contaminated by HIV, syphilis, hepatitis and other highly infectious diseases. Here is the story of the Red Cross' fall—a story of gross mismanagement and neglect.

*LeCarre, John. "Tailor of Panama." Harry Pendel is an ex-patriot Briton, now a tailor in his own upscale shop servicing the elite of Panama City. British intelligence finds out who he is associating with—concerned as they are about world trade through the canal and who controls it.

*Piercy, Marge. "City of Darkness, City of Light." Here is the story of the courage, brilliance, and perseverance of women during the French Revolution told through unforgettable characters and the untold stories of famous men and the city of Paris.

*Scottoline, Lisa. "Legal Tender." Benedetta Rosato and Mark Biscardi have a successful law firm, and Bennie is an expert on police brutality cases. After Mark ousts Bennie from the firm and his life, he is found murdered. The police are eager to get even with Bennie who is the prime suspect after the murder weapon is found in her apartment.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER FOR CHILDREN

*Hess, Debra. "Wilson Sat Alone"

*Hines, Anna Grossnickle. "What Joe Saw"

"Johnston, Tony. "The Iguana Brothers"

*Pilkey, Dav. "The Paperboy"

*Silverstein, Shel. "Falling Up"

*Johnson, Dolores. "Seminole Diary: Remembrances of a Slave"

*Levy, Elizabeth. "Keep Mrs. Sugarman in the Fourth Grade"

*Voigt, Cynthia. "Bad Girls"

Toba Singer
Potrero Branch Librarian

TEN YEARS AGO

In The View

NEW SCHOOLS SUPT. SPEAKS ON HILL:

"I believe in affirmative action," new Superintendent of San Francisco Schools Ramon Cortines told members of the Friends of Potrero Hill Schools (FPHS) at their meeting at the Neighborhood House. "But," he added, "I don't think it was designed so that kids could just sit next to each other in school." However, Cortines explained, with the school system facing a budget deficit he could not promise to solve the serious problems at the Middle School. Parents were gratified to know that the Superintendent recognized the problems.

BATTLESHIP MISSOURI HOMEPORTING ATTACKED:

Navy plans to homeport the Missouri and its support fleet at Hunters Point and Treasure Island drew protests from most of the 200 citizens attending a Navy "environmental scoping session." Concerns included risk of nuclear war and nuclear accidents, overcrowding of streets and schools, additional bay pollution, increased hazards during earthquakes, and the displacement of up to 300 small businesses by the Navy presence. The Navy indicated that the information gathered at the session would be incorporated into an Environmental Impact Statement to be released in January, 1987.

NEW PLAN FOR SYNANON SITE:

A revised plan for the Grosvenor Terraces development (now Potrero Court) proposed for the old Synanon site at 23rd and Kansas Streets were to be presented by Grosvenor Development and Cal Fed Enterprises at the Nabe in September. Significant differences from the April proposal included an increase in bedrooms from 174 to 212 in a total of 132 units, ranging from studios to three-bedroom apartments. Questions remained about the adequacy of parking spaces and the design, and the Potrero League of Active Neighbors (PLAN) was to make their position on the plans known after their next meeting.

HILL LIBRARIAN TRANSFERRED:

Joan Jackson, for seven years Potrero Hill Library's head librarian, was transferred to the larger Western Addition Branch at Geary and Scott Streets. Jackson came to Potrero Hill from the City's smallest branch, Ocean View. The seven-year tenure at Potrero was longer than average for branch librarians, partly because Jackson refused an earlier transfer. "I said I had things I still hoped to do here," she said, citing in particular the "parents' project," which encouraged parents to become involved in their children's reading and other school work. Jackson decided to remain a member of the Board of Directors of the Neighborhood House despite her transfer.

THIS AND THAT:

The Potrero Hill Middle School Physical Education Department reported the vandalizing of and theft from its equipment room . . . Whoopi Goldberg took time out from filming "Burglars" on Potrero Hill to have her picture taken with local fans at 22nd and Carolina Streets . . . "Film Month" — a "guide to repertory cinema" began publishing on Potrero Hill . . . Four youthful participants in the Summer Youth Program — Robert Apodaca, Rose Lopez, Mary Rose and Troy Stitt, told The View of their experiences working on the Hill . . . Dick Partee and the Potrero Hill Preservation Be-Bop Band were slated for September at the Nabe . . . The Julian Theatre in conjunction with The Elusive Theatre Co. of San Francisco was preparing to present "The Belles of the Barbary Coast" a "melodrama with music" . . . The Potrero Branch Library was selected as one of four branch libraries to receive a "microcomputer" for use by the staff and public.

AND 20 YEARS AGO:

The Potrero Hill Bicentennial Committee announced a week of festivities to mark the nation's 200th birthday. They included a "Historic Walking Tour . . . Neighborhood Soul Festival . . . Library Exhibit" and a climactic "special all day festival."

— Vas Arnautoff



Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California 94107

(415) 826-8080

Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

ON-GOING MEETINGS:

Al-Anon	Thursdays, 6:30 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Sun, 8:00 pm/Mon & Thurs, 8:30 pm
Girls/Boys Club	Mondays, 4:00 pm
Narcotics Anonymous	Wednesdays, 8:00 pm
Omega Boys Club	Tuesdays, 7:30 pm
Overeaters Anonymous	Thursdays, 7:00 pm

FACILITIES:

Auditorium for theatre presentations, lectures, weddings, workshops and receptions
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Gymnasium and recreational space
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ACTIVITIES & SERVICES:

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- Arts and Crafts
- Food Distribution
- Gang Prevention
- Girls/Boys Club
- Graffiti Paint Out
- Juvenile Probation
- Home Supervision

Peer Counseling

- MET Theatre Ensemble
- Senior Nutrition Program
- Social Development Center
- Tutoring Program
- Youth Employment
- MYEEP/SYETP
- Job Readiness
- ZAP Project (substance abuse day treatment for adolescents)

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The NABE is wheelchair accessible. If you have the need for the services of a certified American Sign Language interpreter, or a sound enhancement system, or meeting in an alternative format please contact (415) 826-8080 at least three working days prior

Hill Bus Riders to Get Chance To Kvetch

Potrero Hill bus riders who would like to give the Municipal Railway administration a piece of their minds will have the chance to do just that on Saturday, Sept. 14.

That is the date on which Muni's Potrero Division Headquarters at 2500 Mariposa Street will be the site for the latest in a series of Saturday morning meetings at which neighborhood bus riders can meet one-on-one with Emilio Cruz, the new director of public transportation for the City, as well as other local Muni managers.

The Sept. 14 meeting, which is slated from 8 a.m. until noon, will be the fourth in the series of neighborhood sessions. Other gatherings have already been held in the Outer Mission, Richmond and Fisherman's Wharf neighborhoods.

Bus riders have raised a wide variety of issues, ranging from bus schedules and problems with lateness to concerns about passenger safety.

FISH STORY



These Potrero Hill youngsters took their first deep sea fishing trip — sponsored by the S.F. Police Dept. — and a few came home with large salmon, which they happily showed off to friends and neighbors. The S.F. Police offer this once — summer outing as one of several recreational trips offered to city youth.

Shannon Morris photo

8th Annual Hill Festival Oct. 12

Entertainment, children's art, a cable car tour of the Hill, and ethnic foods will be the main ingredients for the 8th Annual Potrero Hill Festival on Saturday, October 12.

The day's events will kick off with an "All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast," at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 8:30 - 11 a.m., at 953 DeHaro St.

Popular headliner groups will entertain at the Daniel Webster School on Missouri Street, with performances by Madeline Eastman and Vince Lateano, the Red Archibald group, the Nabe's Gospel Youth Choir, and Standard Time, among others.

Spaces are still available for arts and crafts vendors wishing to participate. Call Ruth or Shannon at 826-8080.

This event is produced by the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, and co-sponsored by the San Francisco Art Commission.

MUNI Tix at Nabe

MUNI and BART tickets are available at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., Mondays through Fridays during office hours, 10 am-4 pm

Senior MUNI: \$8.00
Youth MUNI: \$8.00

For more information, call 826-8080

Happy New Year



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American Heart Association

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SATURDAY - OCT. 19 - 10-4
SUNDAY - OCT. 20 - 11-2

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The San Francisco Food Bank has broken ground for its new distribution site at the corner of 23rd Street and Pennsylvania Avenue on Potrero Hill (above).

New Food Bank Facility Gets the Green Light

By Carol Peterson

Construction of a new facility for the San Francisco Food Bank on 23rd and Pennsylvania Streets got the green light last month after a temporary snag, after it was discovered that what one concerned neighbor believed was a spring-fed pond next to the site was really not a spring at all, but merely the result of a clogged drainage pipe.

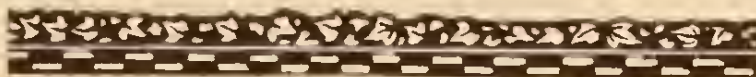
The land on which the new Food Bank facility is slated to be built was donated by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) and was formerly the site of an above-ground natural gas storage tank.

The building permit for the new Food Bank site had been suspended by the City Planning Dept.'s Robert Passmore after he was contacted by Potrero Hill attorney Elissa Eckman. She told **The View** she had informed Passmore she had observed what she thought was a spring-fed pond at the base of the cliff that abuts the site, which is the natural habitat of several native plants, wetlands life and frogs.

But when Passmore consulted Jose Allen of the Food Bank's Board of Directors, Allen told him that this ponding area, which the Food Bank plans to pave over for use as a truck turnaround, is not a spring but the result of a clogged drainage pipe.

The project has been granted a negative declaration by city Environmental Review Officer Barbara Sahm, which means the project was found to have no significant environmental impact on the area. This declaration was granted with the stipulation that hazardous materials on the site be neutralized or excavated from the soil before construction of the food distribution warehouse begins.

San Francisco Food Bank Executive Director Paul Ash told **The View** that his studies indicated no water was present on the site until the cliff was sheared away during PG&E construction in 1947. At that time, water seeped from the cliff face and a drainage pipe was installed. The pipe, he noted, has silted over because of maintenance neglect, causing a ponding effect.



Join
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
for a

Neighborhood Meeting on the National Agenda for Families

A Public Discussion

A National Agenda proposed by Democrats in Congress addresses top priorities for America's families:

EDUCATION - JOBS - ENVIRONMENT - HEALTH

These issues have been the subject of intense debate in budget and policy bills before Congress in the last two years. Congressional Democrats offered a plan for progress on wages and incomes, education and training, health care and a healthy environment, pensions and paycheck security.

Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi invites you to participate in a public discussion of the choices before Congress and the issues that concern you and your family. Please join Congresswoman Pelosi and your San Francisco neighbors to voice your opinions and raise questions about the federal policies affecting our City and country.

Saturday, September 7, 1996

10:30 AM registration, 11:00 AM discussion begins

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street

Muni Lines 19, 48, 53

Handicapped Accessible

For More Information:

Call Congresswoman Pelosi's District Office at (415) 556-4862.



Caleb G. Clark Potrero Hill Health Center

1050 Wisconsin Street
San Francisco, California 94107
Telephone: 648-3022

Michael J. Drennan, MD - Director

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What could possibly go wrong?

Hill Resident Awarded "Small Business of Year" Award For Growth, Innovation, Contributions to Community

By Lysa Allman

Hill resident Stephen D. Mayer, President and CEO of the accountancy firm of Burr, Pilger & Mayer (BPM), is this year's recipient of the Small Business Owner of the Year Award. Presented by the San Francisco Small Business Network to companies with more than 25 employees, the award is bestowed in recognition of exceptional growth, innovation and contribution to the community.

A San Francisco native, who attended Corpus Christi Grammar and Riordan High Schools in the city, Mayer has lived on Potrero Hill for nearly 20 years. "A small business is anybody that has an entrepreneurial outlook," Mayer said, "so all the businesses on the Hill are small business. They are basically owned and run by the same people, with predominantly fewer than 100 employees and probably less than \$1 million in revenue (although BPM's is approximately \$4 million)."

After graduating with an undergraduate degree in Accounting and Marketing, and a Masters in Finance from UC Berkeley, Mayer and his brother found "the perfect house on Arkansas Street." "We bought it in 1977, and although each of our share of the mortgage was only \$254, we couldn't afford the payments, so we rented it out for the first year, then moved in and renovated it," he recalled.

Buying his brother out of the house in 1984, Mayer now resides there with wife Patty, who is very active in the Potrero Hill Parents' Assn. and is working to raise money to rebuild Jackson Playground. The couple has a two-and-a-half year old son, Dylan.

Formed in 1986, BPM was the concept

of Mayer and partners Henry Pilger and Curtis Burr, all former co-workers at Coopers and Lybrand. "We started with three simple goals: to build a full service firm, to give back to the community, and to have fun. Over the past 10 years we have done all three of them," Mayer noted. Now boasting two locations (the second in Palo Alto) and forty-five employees, "we work together and do more than just about any other company I have ever heard of, person-for-person," says Mayer. "It's not just the partners."

"Doing more" includes an annual Giant's season opener party, held at Mayer's home for the past 20 years, which has transformed into a fundraiser for Muscular Dystrophy. "We buy a big block of tickets, have some clients donate food and drinks, and sell the tickets to clients and friends."

BPM also contributed \$25,000 as part of a major fundraising effort by the San Francisco Food Bank, toward its move and expansion into a larger facility at 23rd and Pennsylvania Streets. Mayer noted that the Food Bank is a BPM client, and they wanted to try to do something for their 10-year anniversary that would mean a lot to the community. In addition to their personal contribution, BPM also sought donations from clients and other associates.

In July, while preparing to celebrate their anniversary, BPM was surprised with the presentation of a proclamation from Mayor Willie Brown, declaring July 1 as Burr, Pilger & Mayer Day in San Francisco.

In October, Mayer will become this year's recipient of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce's James R. Sylla Award, named for the former President of Chevron and incoming Chamber President just before his untimely death.

This award honors individuals who demonstrate outstanding contributions to the community as a whole, without the expectation of personal or professional gain, and of this, Mayer said he is especially proud.

BPM's community labors of love also include the Adopt-A-School Program, focusing on the Redding School on Polk and Pine Streets. At Redding, the program has several components: a Pen Pal program — about 200 students correspond with employees and their family members as well as clients; the Reading program — BPM personnel commit Wednesday mornings to read with the kids at the campus library, including providing a free book for every 10 read; and a mock election every election year — students research the issues, debate, and vote a week prior to the real thing.

Although many businesses adopt schools, Mayer pointed out, they do not take it a step further by getting personally involved. "We are really proud that we have several programs, and everyone (at BPM) gets involved."

What is most rewarding about his charitable works, Mayer remembers one incident very clearly. While attending a celebrity sports event for kids, a former student from Mayer's Pop Warner Football coaching days recognized him. "This big guy comes up to me and says, 'I know you from somewhere — you're Coach Mayer!'" After explaining that he went on to college, played ball in Canada, and now spends his time with youth, he said, "I remember you guys spent all your spare time with us — I never forgot that!" Mayer told *The View*, "That was the first thing I ever

did, when I was 18, so it really said, 'WOW! You can make a difference.'"

In addition to work and family, Mayer enjoys a variety of outdoor activities, attending sporting events, and his (now 22nd) annual "Male Bonding Backpacking Trip" — a one-week-a-year, 15-man, 50-60 mile traveling hike in such places as Europe, Canada, the Snake River, Yosemite, Hawaii and other great locales. But by far, Mayer's favorite pastime is watching two and a half year old Dylan work his T-Ball. "Why should I watch some professional athlete making \$5 million a year, when I can watch him?" he glowed.

Unfortunately for Potrero Hill, the Mayers will be moving to the Peninsula near the end of September. Desiring to spend more time with his growing family (they are expecting a new addition shortly), Mayer says it is about finding the right balance between work, play and family. "When you are growing a business, you sometimes spend too much time with the business."

"We have met a lot of nice people on the Hill, and though we are moving away, we will certainly be coming to visit all of the friends that we have there," he vowed.

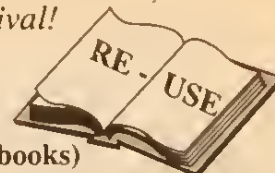


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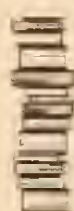


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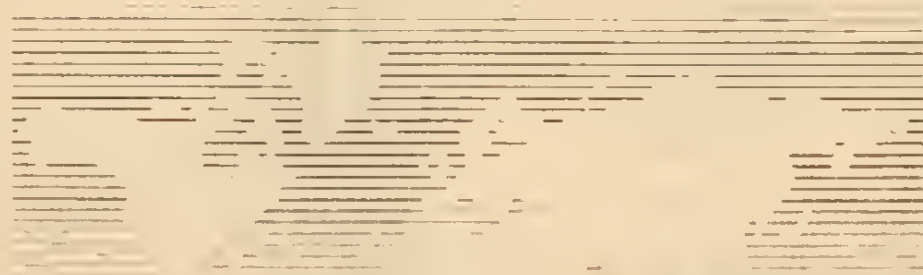
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A new service to senior citizens is offered at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House beginning Sept. 3. Senior Central Services will provide information and other help by Case Manager Seth Lyon, who will be stationed at the Nabe twice a week. He will develop supportive services, as well as advocate on behalf of clients when resources are not readily available directly to those in need. Some typical needs Lyon will assist on are arranging and coordinating medical appointments, Medicare and Medi-Cal counseling, and assistance in obtaining income, housing, homemaker services and escort services. Call 885-2274 for more info.

The 16th International League of Antiquarian Booksellers (ILAB) Book Fair will be held Sept. 6-8 at the Concourse Exhibition Center (8th & Brannan Sts.) The selection of books will include early printed books and manuscripts dating to the 15th century or before, illustrated books, fine bindings, early American literature and modern first editions, children's books, antiquarian books on law, architecture, economics and scores of books in all fields of interest. Call 695-1449 for info on schedule and admission charges.

The Mexican Museum offers tours of the Diego Rivera mural at the S.F. City Club, 155 Sansome St. Tours takes place the first Wednesday of every month at 3 p.m. To make reservations call Masha Zakheim, 285-0495.

The New College of Law hosts a reception to welcome Johnny Spain to its faculty and celebrate the release of his biography, "Black Power, White Blood, The Life and Times of Johnny Spain," by Lori Andrews. The school is located at 50 Fell St., and the reception is free and open to the public.

The Bay View Boat Club and Mariposa/Hunters Point Yacht Club are hosting the 8th Annual Wooden Boat Festival Oct. 5-6. There will be a marine swap meet, concours d'elegance, sailboat racing, children's events, bbq lunch and dinner, live music and dancing, as well as wooden boat seminars. For more info and entry forms call BVBC 495-9500, or Peter Snider 255-7635, or Bruno Heidrich, 864-8711. Both clubs are located on China Basin St., near Pier 54.

There will be a reception for artist Wendy Yoshimura on Sun., Sept. 8 at Goat Hill Pizza, 300 Connecticut St., where Yoshimura's works will be on exhibit through Nov. 3. The reception is open to the public.



24th Street Animal Clinic
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The UCSF/Mt. Zion Pain Management Center is looking for volunteers to participate in a study to evaluate a pain treatment derived from hot chili peppers. Patients with HIV who are experiencing severe and painful burning sensations in their legs or feet are eligible for the clinical trial. Contact Randy Callahan, manager of the Pain Management Center, 885-7246.

Women 55 years or older are being sought to test an experimental medication for osteoporosis. Volunteers will be selected from women who had their last menstrual period at least five years ago and who are taking estrogen. For more info, or if interested in the study, call 476-5548.

UCSF Osteoporosis Research Programs are seeking women volunteers for a study on bone density measurements. Participants must be between the ages 60-85, and must have broken a hip within the last two years. Qualified participants will be given free bone density measurement tests and will be reimbursed for their time. For more info call 476-8447.

Interested in learning to tango? Classes are available at the Verdi Club, 2424 Mariposa St. Victor Meneses of Victor & Friends offers a free evening class any Thursday as an introduction to the tango. Call 239-7002 for more info.

The UCSF Senior Faculty Women Leadership Subcommittee invites Bay Area residents to join in a workday at the AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park in remembrance of those who died of AIDS. The workday takes place Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Activities include clearing neglected areas of weeds and debris, planting new trees and shrubs, and tending to recently planted areas. The 15-acre park site is near the intersection of Bowling Green Drive and Middle Drive East, near the tennis courts. For info call 476-0729.

More than 100 dealers will be offering vintage clothing, textiles, jewelry and accessories at the Concourse, 8th and Brannan Sts., Sept. 21-22. Regular shopping hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission fee is \$6, and a fashion show takes place at 1:30, along with noon lectures on vintage clothing topics. For more info, call 822-7227.

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Project Read is sponsoring a "Move-a-Thon" to raise funds to help adults read better. Walkers in this event will raise money for the program, which teaches adults in the Bay Area how to read. Project Read is a program of the adult literacy unit of the San Francisco Public Library. To register, volunteer, or for more info call 557-4388. The walk takes place Sept. 7 beginning 10 a.m. at Justin Herman Plaza at the Embarcadero.

The S.F. Safety Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) will be celebrating its 20th anniversary on Sept. 26 at the Delancey Street Town Hall (600 Embarcadero at Brannan St.) from 5:30-8 p.m. The event will be hosted by KRON-Ch. 4 news anchor Emerald Yeh, and will honor over a dozen community and corporate individuals who have been instrumental in making their communities a safer place to live. For more info call 553-1984.

Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP), a project of Legal Assistance to the Elderly, Inc. is offering a volunteer training series in mid-October. The program teaches volunteers in helping seniors with legal matters, and if you can devote about 12 hours a month for a minimum of one year, call 861-4444. HICAP is funded by the State of California, Dept. of Aging.

The 5th Annual Women and Cancer Walk takes place Sept. 29 at 11:30 a.m. in Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park. Funds raised from this 5K walk benefit a number of health organizations in San Francisco. Music and speakers. Call 255-8336 to register/volunteer.

What to do with old telephone directories? When you receive your 1996-97 phone directories, put the old phone books in a paper bag with other paper recyclables and set them out for the curbside recycling service, or take your books to a recycling center. Call the S.F. Recycling Hotline, 554-6193 for info. Also, Pacific Bell Directory has set up a 24-hour 800 number (printed on the front cover of the directory) that S.F. residents can call for information on how to recycle their books. Details of the program are also available in English, Spanish and Chinese on this hotline.

On the last Sunday of every month, one can board the Mexican Bus for a ride to the Mission District for a walking mural tour. The bus can be boarded in front of the Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third St. at 9:30 a.m. The cost of the tour (which includes light refreshments) is \$15, and reservations are required. For more info call 285-2287.

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International Coastal Cleanup Day, Sept. 21 is a chance for everyone to join in to clean the beach. Each year thousands of fish, birds and marine mammals die when they eat or become entangled in the debris that pollutes our shores and waterways. Help make a difference and join other volunteers in making our beaches clean and safe for both people and wildlife. Meet at Ocean Beach and The Great Highway from 9 a.m.-noon. For more info call 977-5550.

Metronome Ballroom is presenting a day and evening of ballroom dance exhibition and competition on Sunday, Sept. 22. For information on the daylong event and cost of admission, call 252-9000. The Ballroom is located at 1830 - 17th St. at Dellaro.

Friends of the Potrero Hill Nursery School opens its doors Sept. 9, at St. Gregory's Church, Dellaro and Mariposa Streets. For registration and other info call 864-5464.

Friends of the S.F. Public Library hold their annual Biggest in the West book sale at Ft. Mason, Sept. 12-15. More than 65,000 books will be for sale. Admission is free on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. On Thursday, Sept. 12, opening day, from 4 p.m.-8p.m. there is a \$15 admission charge, with a silent auction of rare and unusual books from 4-6 p.m. All books are half-price on Sept. 15. If you need more info call 557-4257.

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Free performances of "Wayang Bali," the traditional Balinese shadow play, takes place outdoors in South Park (off 2nd Street near Bryant) beginning at 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 20 and 27.

These performances by Shadowlight Productions are centered around improvised stories from Hindu mythology and are staged behind a screen illuminated by firelight.

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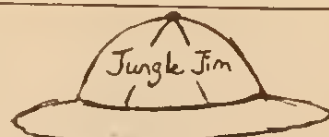
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SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



The Good Life Grocery awarded its sixth Scholarship Award to employee Dennis Dudics, who will receive \$550. Dudics graduated from Bridgemont High School and completed a Summer Bridge program through S.F. State University's Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). He will attend S.F. State University in the fall. Above, Dudics, center, is surrounded by Good Life Grocery employees (l/r) John Cook, Pearl Zulucta, Inga Larsen, Kayren Hudiburgh and Susanna Sanchez.

Lester Zeidmon photo

Neighbors Set to Fight Halfway House Expansion

(Continued from Page 1)

for burglary, most were discharged or otherwise had the charges against them dropped.

Mahoney noted that, while he had no firm statistics, he thought the Indiana Street recidivism numbers compared favorably with those of inmates released directly from prison to the street. "I think with 28 of these guys (Cornell) did a great job, but with 29 they did a terrible job," he said.

Others at the meeting disagreed, however, and one participant noted that "just because the statistics compare favorably doesn't mean that's acceptable to the neighborhood."

Rota McLean, who manages the halfway house, defended the work she and her staff have been doing with Indiana Street's inmates. "Twenty-eight out of 50 is a success," she said, given that "many of these guys (inmates) come from lives you can't even imagine."

"There ain't a government, there ain't a church, there ain't a dictator who can fix everybody," McLean continued.

Underlying the drive against the proposed expansion was a suspicion of Cornell Corrections' motives as a private, for-profit corporation. Dominick said that, while he appreciated the dedication of Cornell employees in the work they have done in trying to reform Indiana Street inmates, he felt uneasy about "a private corporation making decisions on the bottom line and playing with the safety of the neighborhood."

In order to win an expansion, Cornell applied for a modification of its Conditional Use Authorization with the city Planning Department. Originally designed to house 96 inmates, the capacity at the 19,500 square-foot facility was whittled down to 50 after angry neighbors got wind that a halfway house was going to be located in the area six years ago. If granted, the modification would bring capacity back up to 96 and add eight new staff members.

Cornell has overcome the first hurdle in winning the modification, receiving a green light on an environmental impact review by the Planning Department. Although the Planning Department has not yet set a date for a public hearing, one is expected in late September or early October.

The next meeting of the Indiana Street Facility Citizen's Advisory Board is set for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 18. The meeting will be held at the Potrero Hill Branch Library meeting room. The public is invited to attend.

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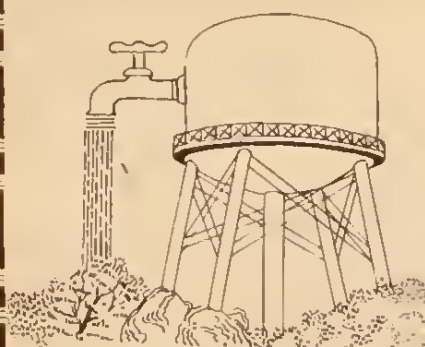
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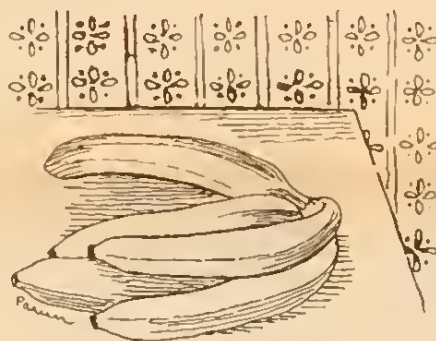
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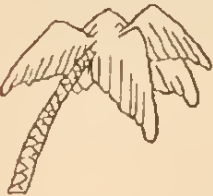
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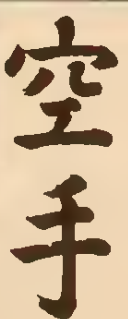
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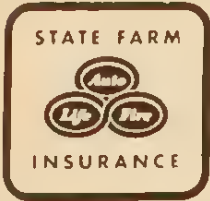
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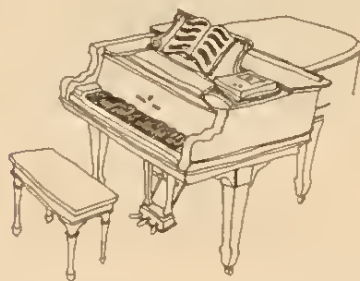
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